

Notice of MB 18-184 / FCC 18-69 Ex-Parte Presentation

On Friday, May 17, 2019 between 1:30 PM and 2:30 PM, Matthew Wesolowski of SSR Communications, Inc., met in person with Alexander Sanjenis, Media Advisor for Chairman Ajit Pai, as well as James Bradshaw, Senior Deputy Chief of the Audio Division of the Media Bureau.

Wesolowski asked Sanjenis and Bradshaw where the Commission stood on the MB 18-184 / FCC 18-69 “FM Class C4” proceeding. No specific timeframe could be given as to when a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking would be released, as comments from the 2018 Notice of Inquiry window were still under evaluation.

Wesolowski requested an update on the Commission's stance towards an alternative and pending waiver-based application filed in July, 2018 by WRTM-FM (BPH-20180716AAC), the grant of which would result in a technical facility mirroring that of a proposed “FM Class C4” station classification. It was apparent that the Commission would be willing to consider the WRTM-FM waiver as a viable alternative to approach a formal MB 18-184 NPRM if the pool of potential future eligible applicants could be narrowed.

The meeting also included a discussion of other potential relief options for small broadcasters, such as a potential relaxation of 3rd adjacent channel spacing standards, a future new FM translator window, reduction in interference overlap ratios by 3 - 6 dB, and various ownership regulation topics.

In addition to the above, Wesolowski asked that the Commission consider voting affirmatively on the release of a MB 18-184 NPRM.

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